AMENDMENT

In the Claims

Please cancel claim 82 without prejudice. Please amend claims 80-81 and 83-93 to read as follows:

80. (Amended) A method of eliciting protective antibodies specific to group A streptococcal polysaccharide in a mammal comprising administering to a mammal a polysaccharide-protein conjugate or polysaccharide-protein fragment conjugate wherein the polysaccharide component of said conjugates is of formula (I)

$$[\rightarrow 2)\text{-}\alpha\text{-L-Rhap-}(1\rightarrow 3)\text{-}\alpha\text{-L-Rhap-}(1\rightarrow]_n\text{-R}$$
$$\begin{array}{c} 3 \\ \uparrow \\ 1 \\ \text{ß-D-GlcpNAc} \end{array} \qquad \text{(I)}$$

wherein R is a terminal reducing L-rhamnose or D-GlcpNAc and n is a number from 3 to 50, and wherein said polysaccharide component is covalently bound to the protein component or protein fragment component of said conjugates.

81. (Amended) The method of eliciting protective antibodies specific to group A streptococcal polysaccharide according to claim 80, wherein the mammal is a human.

83. (Amended) The method of eliciting protective antibodies specific to group A streptococcal polysaccharide according to claim 80, wherein n is 3 to 30.

84. (Amended) The method of eliciting protective antibodies specific to group A streptococcal polysaccharide according to claim 81, wherein the polysaccharide component has a molecular weight of about 10 Kd.

85. (Amended) The method of eliciting protective antibodies specific to group A streptococcal polysaccharide according to claim 81, wherein the protein component is bound to the polysaccharide component through a secondary amine bond.

86. (Amended) The method of eliciting protective antibodies specific to group A streptococcal polysaccharide according to claim 85, wherein the protein component is any native or recombinant bacterial protein.

87. (Amended) The method of eliciting protective antibodies specific to group A streptococcal polysaccharide according to claim 86, wherein the protein component is selected from the group consisting of tetanus toxoid, cholera toxin, diphtheria toxoid, and CRM_{197}.

88. (Amended) The method of eliciting protective antibodies specific to group A streptococcal polysaccharide according to claim 87, wherein the protein component is tetanus toxoid.

89. (Amended) The method of eliciting protective antibodies specific to group A streptococcal polysaccharide according to claim 81, wherein the conjugates are administered with a carrier selected from the group consisting of saline, Ringer's solution and phosphate buffered saline.

90. (Amended) The method of eliciting protective antibodies specific to group A streptococcal polysaccharide according to claim 81, wherein the conjugates are administered with an adjuvant.

91. (Amended) The method of eliciting protective antibodies specific to group A streptococcal polysaccharide according to claim 90, wherein the adjuvant is selected from the group consisting of aluminum hydroxide, aluminum phosphate, monophosphoryl lipid A, QS21 and stearyl tyrosine.

92. (Amended) The method of eliciting protective antibodies specific to group A streptococcal polysaccharide according to claim 81, wherein the human is a child.